

[Mr. K. George.]

(b) After carefully considering the question, the Government decided that, as the number of general holidays was already too many, they were unable to grant a holiday on Mulam day of Kanni every year. This was communicated to the leader of the deputation.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know how many public holidays there are in one year on religious grounds?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not made a calculation of that. So, that information is not with me now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether he is in a position to say how many holidays there are on account of Hinduism, Mahomedanism, Christianity, etc?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government will be in a position to give that information if they collect the figures about it. But they have not done it.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is it on account of the ground that if in one year a day more is declared a public holiday the work of the departments will suffer that the Government refused the request of the deputation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer gives the reason why the request had to be declined; there are too many holidays already.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is it that the number of holidays was already too many and that therefore the additional holiday could not be given?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, that is the point.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Do the Government intend to reduce the number of holidays because of the fact that there are too many holidays already in a year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes; the question is under the consideration of the Government.

Assignment of Land to Captain Alexander.

59. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any *puduvai* lands have been recently assigned to Captain Alexander in South Travancore (near Chittar), and, if the answer is in the affirmative, the date of the assignment and the extent of the lands so assigned;

(b) when Captain Alexander applied for the registry of the above lands;

(c) whether the Government have taken the opinion of the Revenue and P. W. D. authorities with regard to the assignment of the above area;

(d) whether the area assigned is within the catchment area of the Chittar;

(e) whether the Dewan had been to the place for local inspection, and, if so, the date of the inspection; and

(f) whether the Government have received any representations protesting against this assignment, and, if so, the nature of those representations?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) The *puduvai* land comprised in Survey No. 2995 in the Kalial *pakuthi*, Vilavankod taluk, and available for assignment has been sanctioned to be registered in the name of Captain Alexander, subject to the condition agreed to by him that he will give back the whole or any portion of the land together with the improvements effected by him, without claiming any compensation, on refund of the *taravila* realised from him in respect of the land, should it be found later on that the land is required by the Government or that it could not be granted. The above sanction was accorded in G. O. R. O. C. No. 4976/25/Rev., dated the 12th February, 1927. The extent available for assignment has been reported to be 274.52 acres.

(b) 30th October, 1925.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

(f) Certain resolutions passed at a public meeting held at Kuzhitturai on the 24th Makaram, 1102, were received by the Government and one of the resolutions was to the effect that no land in the Vilavankod taluk should be registered to foreigners until the Chittar scheme is completed.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know if the Government are aware that there is a scheme called Chittar scheme pending the consideration of the Government now?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There is a scheme like that. It is not under the consideration of the Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is it not under the consideration of the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Not just now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What has been done in regard to the Chittar scheme?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I can't say that exactly now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I refer the member to the answer given on a previous occasion saying that the scheme is under the consideration of the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, but I said that it is not just now under the consideration of the Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Has it been disposed of in any way?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am unable to say.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know what is the distance of the land now assigned from the spot of the proposed diversion of the Chittar channel?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to give that information.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know how the member was able to answer my question whether the area assigned is within the catchment area of Chittar—"The answer is in the negative"?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer is based on the Chief Engineer's report.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): In view of the statement that the area is not within the catchment area of the Chittar, may I know whether he is in a position to say what is the distance between the land assigned and the spot fixed for the diversion of the Chittar channel?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer refers to survey No. 2995. That channel drains mostly into the Kodayar, and not into the Chittar. Therefore it is that the answer is framed as above.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Therefore is he in a position to say whether the proposed spot in the Chittar dam is also within survey No. 2995?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to say that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to part (c) of the question, may I know whether the Chief Engineer had no objection in assigning this land?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): He had no objection and he has reported to that effect.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the matter was referred to the Executive Engineer who is directly in charge of the locality?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government are advised by the Chief Engineer.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether he referred the matter to the Executive Engineer?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I have no means of knowing that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the Executive Engineer concerned recorded any opinion with regard to this proposal?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government are not aware. It is clear from the previous answer.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to call for information on that point?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That may be done if the member wants it.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether there was any particular exigency to assign the land on certain conditions?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It was suggested by the Chief Engineer that in the event of any remote necessity for this land being required for any Government purpose, there should be that safeguard.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Therefore what was the hurry on the part of the Government to assign away the land when they had the knowledge that at a future date this land might be required?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There was no hurry. There was an application for this land and action was taken on it.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Then what was the need for assignment of the land on the condition that it should be returned when required by the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Such assignments are generally made under the Puduval Rules issued under the Land Assignment Regulation.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the condition was imposed because the Government thought in case that if the Chittar scheme were to be taken up the land would be required?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That condition was put in with a view to provide for a remote contingency of the land being required for any Government purpose.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know how many registries of land were allowed on the condition that the land should be given back whenever it is wanted?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In the past?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Yes, up to the present moment.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): All registries to members of the depressed classes are subject to certain conditions as the member will see from the rules. There are several registries like that. I cannot give the exact number.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to this particular area, may I know whether there were any other previous applicants?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That information is not available.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether any member of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly made representations protesting against this proposal in the last session?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The printed proceedings of the Assembly will show that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is he aware that a member made a representation stating that the people are prepared to pay for the land for keeping it up intact?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I don't exactly remember that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Does he remember that there was a representation that they are even prepared to pay for the land if the site is retained as a forest?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I don't exactly remember that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): By reference to the proceedings of the Assembly, will he refresh his memory and say whether there was such a representation?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): For my benefit or for the member's benefit?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): For the benefit of all here.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That I should refresh my memory?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): And give an answer.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I have not got the printed proceedings here. The printed proceedings will show what all the member said.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): All that he said will not appear in the proceedings. There is only a summary.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): What particulars the summary contains will be known from the report.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): If this particular information is not there, will the member furnish the information because I am very particular to know it.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, that can be ascertained.

Beginning of Planting Industry in Travancore.

GO. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to give the respective dates on which Europeans and Travancoreans first began plantations in Travancore, whether it be of rubber, tea or any other thing?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Exact dates are not available. But Portuguese and Dutch, Danes and other settlers